

SUBJECT: Hazardous Egress and Evacuation  
Working Group Meeting, November 13,  
1968 - Case 320

DATE: November 15, 1968

FROM: W. O. Campbell

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

A meeting of the Hazardous Egress and Evacuation Working Group (HEEWG) of the Apollo Launch Operations Committee was held at the Kennedy Space Center on November 13, 1968. Further inquiries were also made concerning cognizance of the SLA egress hazards.

1. HEEWG

a. LC-39 Slidewire Areas of Concern

The slidewire trolley is still in an active design phase; changes occur frequently. The main areas of concern as of Wednesday, November 13, were trolley center of gravity (c.g.) and braking action.

The c.g. is above the trolley wheel line, which causes tipping in the stored position on the tower, creating delays in readying the trolley for use. Outrigger-mounted counterweights added below the wheel line to lower the c.g. have created what may be a personnel hazard at the bottom of the run if one trolley impacts another with sufficient force to dislodge the weights. To minimize the possibility, the outrigger is now secured more firmly to the trolley frame by a better system of bolts.

The uniform braking action of the several trolleys increases the probability of personnel impact in event of traffic jams at the bottom of the run. One fix contemplates the use of different calibrated braking coefficients individually set for each of the trolleys so that the first trolley travels the farthest distance, the last one the least. This appears to be a new design concept. An alternate fix contemplates use of fewer trolleys, a longer time interval between use of successive trolleys, with more than one rider on each trolley. In view of the upcoming slidewire tests and AS-503 launch date, this operational restriction may be the only solution available.

As of Friday, November 15, all of these contemplated solutions are highly tentative. A decision must be made soon.

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N79-72009

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(NASA-CR-100307) HAZARDOUS EGRESS AND  
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b. LC-39 Slidewire Tests

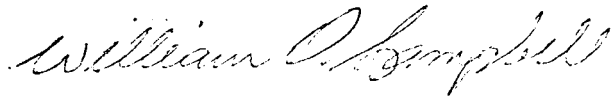
Volunteer training tests are scheduled for November 15. The Systems Acceptance Test is scheduled for Monday, November 18; Man Rating Tests, November 19 and 20. These dates appear to be at variance with the state of engineering design of the trolley.

c. LC-39 Redbook

The Redbook (Emergency Egress Procedures) was available November 14.

2. OTHER

As a continuation of previous efforts, further informal inquiries were made regarding the degree of training and procedural preparedness in case of a major spillage in the SLA leading to a fire. Little can be accomplished that has not already been done. The item will be kept open, however.



2032-WOC-gmp

W. O. Campbell

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